

EDUCATING THE MIDDLE EAST

CapnCrunch

What Are We Doing?

- * Educate the security firm on the culture and customs of the Middle East and how they should behave in a respected manner around the local population.
- * We will educate the security members on the practice and principles of Islam.
- * Educate the security members on Radical Islam, so they will know what dangers to expect and what they can do prevent them.

How May You Ask We Will Achieve These?

- * People of our corporation will be making our own keynotes, videos, and other presentations to educate the employees.
- * We will then go across America to high schools that are part of the one-to-one initiative and ask their students to make presentations that would help educate a group of people about Islam and the Middle East.
- * As a reward, the top 10 submissions will receive scholarships to the college of their choice, and they will be shown to the members of our security firm.

Teaching Them:

- * Middle Eastern Customs and Etiquette:
- * Hagglng is common in market places and bazaars
- * Modest clothing should be worn at all times, avoid shorts and skimpy t-shirts
- * Be educated in head attire for holy sites, some require head scarfs and turbans to be worn, others ask for nothing to be worn on the head
- * NEVER USE YOUR LEFT HAND, the left hand is reserved for bodily hygiene and seen as unclean, never shake or hand someone something or eat with your left hand, it is considered unclean
- * PDA, even among married people, is very frowned upon, avoid it at all costs
- * 2 people of the same gender holding hands is a common sign of friendship, and not gay
- * Older people are highly respected, always stand and greet them when they enter a room
- * Middles Eastern people take pride in hospitality, they usually offer coffee and snacks, to refuse these may be taken as an insult.
- * Giving someone a thumbs up is considered an insult
- * Responding to anger with laughter or a smile is common, it is important not to see this as the other person not taking you seriously
- * Touching someone with your shoe and displaying the sole of your foot can be seen as rude, it is important not to sit with your foot at an elevated position.
- * Always try to position yourself so your back is not turned to another person.

Ethnic Groups

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| * Arabs | * Egyptian | * Circassians | * Gagauz |
| * Turks | * Copts | * Greeks | * Berbers |
| * Persians | * Maronites | * Turcomans | * Mhallami |
| * Jews | * Phoenicians | * Shabaks | * Samaritans |
| * Kurds | * Armenians, | * Yazidis | |
| * Assyrians/
Syriacs | * Arameans | * Mandeans | |
| * Chaldo-
Assyrians | * Azeris | * Georgians | |
| | * Maltese | * Roma | |

Languages

- * Top Three:

- * Arabic

- * Persian

- * Turkish

- * English

- * Indo-European

- * Arabic is the most widely spoken language in the Middle East, being official in all the Arab countries.

- * English is commonly spoken as a second language, especially among the middle and upper classes, in countries such as Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Iran, Iraq, Qatar, Bahrain, United Arab Emirates and Kuwait.

- * English is also a main language in some of the United Arab Emirates.

Religions

- * Very diverse:
 - * The largest is Islam
 - * Judaism
 - * Christianity
 - * Baháí
 - * Yazdānism
 - * Zoroastrianism
- * Mandeism
- * Druze
- * Yarsan
- * Yazidism
- * Shabakism

Government

- * **Iran:** Presidential-parliamentary democracy under Islamic religious control -- Power shared by elected Parliament and a President.
- * **Iraq:** One-party presidential dictatorship -- President with complete power.
- * **Israel:** Parliamentary democracy -- People elect a Parliament, which turns into a Prime Minister.
- * **Kuwait:** Constitutional monarchy -- Power of a king is limited by a constitution and a National Assembly.
- * **Saudi Arabia:** Monarchy -- King rules who is a member of the Al Sa'd royal family.
- * **Syria:** Dominant party (military-dominated) -- Government is controlled by a single political party.
- * **Turkey:** Presidential-parliamentary democracy -- Parliament elects a president who appoints the Prime Minister.

Top 10 Foods

- * **Hummus**

- * Mashed chickpea dip made with tahini, olive oil, garlic and lemon juice. It is an enticing appetizer, served with pita bread

- * **Tahini**

- * The foundation of many good Middle Eastern recipes. The paste can also be used as a spread on bread and crackers.

- * **Falafel**

- * Perhaps the most widely recognized Middle Eastern food is falafel. The fried balls made of chickpeas, onions and spices make for a tasty appetizer or light vegetarian meal. Falafel makes a great sandwich inside pita bread with veggies.

- * **Tabouleh**

- * A salad that has a nice "kick". It makes a great alternative to a traditional salad; tabouleh is made of cracked wheat, mint, parsley and more.

- * **Pita Bread**

- * A staple in the Middle Eastern diet. It is served with just about every meal. Warm, toasted, stuffed, or dipped, pita bread is the most versatile food in Middle Eastern cooking. It's easy to make, too!

Top 10 Foods (Continued)

- * **Baklava**

- * In the Middle East, baklava is called baklava. The Greeks use honey, while in the Middle East, orange blossom or rose water is used for the syrup. This delicious desert may be time consuming, but well worth the effort!

- * **Baba Ghannouj**

- * A vegetarian favorite. It's smooth and creamy texture makes it ideal for dipping pita bread or vegetables.

- * **Turkish Coffee**

- * Turkish coffee is famed for its bold, rich taste. It has a hint a cardamom and is prepared carefully in an ibrik and allowed to sit a minute before serving to allow the coffee grains to fall to the bottom of the cup. According to a Turkish proverb "coffee should be black as hell, strong as death, and as sweet as love".

- * **Foul Mudammes**

- * Boiled fava beans with spices. Some people prefer them mashed, and foul is traditionally breakfast food eaten with pita bread.

- * **Turkish Delight**

- * Sweet candies called lokum in the Middle East. Made from sugar and cornstarch, these candies are irresistible!

Top Exports

- * Oil is the top overall export.
- * Dairy is the top food export.